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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,466	11/08/2001	Erik Ekkel	US 018178 (D8333-09)	4995

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EXAMINER
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ABEL JALIL, NEVEEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2165

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/05/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/006,466	EKKEK, ERIK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Neveen Abel-Jalil	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7,8,21,23,25 and 26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7,8,21,23,25 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on November 8, 2006 has been entered.
2. Claims 6, 9-20, 22, and 24 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 21, 23, 25 and 26 are now pending.
3. Applicant's Amendment has overcome previous claim objections and rejections under 101, and 112, second paragraph.

### ***Claim Objections***

4. Claims 1, 4, and 21 are objected to because of the following informalities:  
Claim 1, line 24, recite "access to use the persistent data" which constitutes intended use not actually having to take place. The claim should be amended to replace the recitation with "access to the persistent data". Similarly, claims 4, and 21 carry the same deficiency.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

6. Claims 1, 4, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. That claims do not recite a practical application by producing a physical transformation or producing a useful, concrete, and tangible result. To perform a physical transformation, the claimed invention must transform an article of physical object into a different state or thing. Transformation of data is not a physical transformation. A useful, concrete, and tangible result must be either specifically recited in the claim or flow inherently therefrom. To be useful the claimed invention must establish a specific, substantial, and credible utility. To be concrete the claimed invention must be able to produce reproducible results. To be tangible the claimed invention must produce a practical application or real world result.. In this case claims 1, and 21, fail to perform a physical transformation because the claims are directed to operating on data. The claims also fail to produce a tangible result because “identifying” is not actually stored or outputted, there’s no subsequent use to the results of the “identifying”. Similarly, claim 4, has not tangible result to the “securing”. What happens once the data the secured? Is there and access refused taking place? Or is access granted? An output is needed.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

8. Claims 1, 3-7, and 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Dukyun Nam, et al. *Distributed Document Sharing System*. June 2001 (hereon in Nam et al.)-Cited in the previous office action.

As to claim 1, Nam et al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

a musicbox implemented via at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device (See page 1), specialized musicbox devices, a computer and computers, said musicbox comprising:

a persistent data store, the persistent data store containing a plurality of individually selectable data files of a predetermined data format, some of the data files being pre-loaded onto the persistent data store (See page 11, paragraph 2);

a data communications interface operatively connected to a data communications network to effect a peer-to-peer network, the data communications network comprising a plurality of musicboxes authorized to participate in the peer-to-peer network (See page 1); and

a controller operatively connected to the persistent data store and the data communications interface (See page 3, paragraph 5); and

software stored in the musicbox and executable via the controller in the musicbox (See page 1, also see page 9, paragraph 2), wherein the software is configured to:

identify, without utilizing a central server, the plurality of authorized musicboxes executing instances of the software (See page 13, paragraph 1, also see page 9, paragraph 1, once

registration takes place, a peer is allowed to communicate directly with another w/o server access);

peer-to-peer share of the data files with the identified other musicboxes, the sharing being restricted to the identified plurality of authorized musicboxes having authorization to participate in the peer-to-peer sharing of data files (See page 9, paragraph 1);

secure the data files from unauthorized access to prevent the data files from being retrieved in a perceptible format thereof by unauthorized musicboxes (See page 11, paragraph 2);

reproduce the data files into a predetermined perceptible format (See page 2, paragraph 1); and

provide authorized musicboxes access to use the data files (See page 10, paragraph 1), wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether another system is executing an instance of software that allows and restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the data files (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, once that's detected, the user authentication can be acquired as taught on page 12); and

identifying said another system as an unauthorized musicbox not being a peer in response to a detection that said another system is not executing said instance (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, interpreted to be musicbox without authorized access for communication, page 9, paragraph 2, teaches that the client software must be download in order to be considered a participating peer in Nam et al.'s network).

As to claim 3, Nam at al. discloses wherein the data files comprise at least **one of** audiovisual works, music recordings, performance recordings, digitized film recordings, digitized video recordings, graphic work images, text (See page 3, paragraph 4), and software.

As to claim 4, Nam at al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

a musicbox implemented via at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device (See page 1), specialized musicbox devices, a computer and computers, said musicbox comprising:

a persistent data store, the persistent data store containing a plurality of individually selectable data files of a predetermined data format, some of the data files being pre-loaded onto the persistent data store (See page 11, paragraph 2);

a data communications interface operatively connected to a data communications network to effect a peer-to-peer network (See page 1); and

a controller operatively connected to the persistent data store and the data communications interface (See page 3, paragraph 5); and

software stored in the musicbox and executable via the controller in the musicbox (See page 1, also see page 9, paragraph 2), the software is configured to:

identify, without utilizing a central server, other musicboxes executing instances of the software (See page 13, paragraph 1, also see page 9, paragraph 1, once registration takes place, a peer is allowed to communicate directly with another w/o server access);

peer-to-peer share the data files with the identified other musicboxes, the sharing being restricted to the identified other musicboxes having authorization to participate in the peer-to-peer sharing of data files (See page 9, paragraph 1);

secure the data files from unauthorized access (See page 11, paragraph 2);

reproduce the data files into a predetermined perceptible format (See page 2, paragraph 1); and

provide authorized musicboxes access to use the data files, wherein said software is configured to secure data files from unauthorized access by selecting **from among at least:**

securing the data files to prevent the data files from being retrieved in the predetermined perceptible format by unauthorized musicboxes (See page 10, paragraph 1); and

securing the data files to be retrievable in the predetermined perceptible format by authorized musicboxes (See page 11, paragraph 2, wherein access rights are applied the document therefore securing them from being perceptible), wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether another system is executing an instance of software that allows and restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the data files (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, once that's detected, the user authentication can be acquired as taught on page 12); and

identifying said another system as an unauthorized musicbox not being a peer in response to a detection that said another system is not executing said instance (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, interpreted to be musicbox without authorized access for communication, page 9, paragraph 2, teaches that the client software must be download in order to be considered a participating peer in Nam et al.'s network).



As to claim 5, Nam at al. discloses further comprising an audio-visual interface to export audio and/or visual data usable in further reproduction of content within the data files (See page 9, Figure A.1. Prototype Registration, shows different documents that are sharable which are deemed to include audio/video).

As to claim 7, Nam at al. discloses further comprising a central server to provide registration services, the central server being a peer participant in the peer-to-peer network (See page 9, paragraph 1).

As to claim 21, Nam at al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

means for storing persistent data, the persistent data comprising a plurality of data files of a predetermined data format, the data files further being secured from unauthorized access (See page 11, paragraph 2);

means for data communications, coupled to the means for storing persistent data (See page 10, paragraph 2); and

means for accessing the persistent data in communication with the means for storing persistent data and the means for data communications (See page 9, paragraph 3), wherein the means for storing persistent data, the means for data communications and the means for accessing the persistent data are together implemented via a musicbox, wherein the musicbox comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device (See

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page 1), specialized musicbox devices, a computer and computers, wherein the means for accessing the persistent data is executable via a controller in the musicbox and configured to:

identify, without utilizing a central server, other systems executing the means for accessing the persistent data (See page 13, paragraph 1, also see page 9, paragraph 1, once registration takes place, a peer is allowed to communicate directly with another w/o server access);

peer-to-peer share the persistent data with the identified other systems, the sharing being restricted to the identified other systems to prevent the persistent data from being retrieved in the predetermined data format by an unidentified system (See page 11, paragraph 2); and

provide identified systems access to use the persistent data (See page 10, paragraph 1), wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether the other system is executing an instance of software that allows and restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the plurality of data files (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, once that's detected, the user authentication can be acquired as taught on page 12); and

identifying the other system as the unidentified system not being a peer in response to a detection that said other unidentified system is not executing said instance (See page 23, when message response is user log-out, or client is not alive, interpreted to be musicbox without authorized access for communication, page 9, paragraph 2, teaches that the client software must be download in order to be considered a participating peer in Nam et al.'s network).

As to claim 23, Nam at al. discloses wherein said system does not include a central server (See page 9, paragraph 1).

As to claim 25, Nam at al. discloses wherein said system does not include a central server (See page 9, paragraph 1).

As to claim 26, Nam at al. discloses wherein said software is further operable for:  
securing a predetermined collection of data files from unauthorized copying (See page 5, paragraph 1, wherein “copying” reads on “downloading”); and  
securing a predetermined collection of data files to be retrievable by authorized access.(See page 9, paragraph 3).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 2, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dukyun Nam, et al. *Distributed Document Sharing System*. June 2001 (hereon in Nam at al.)-Cited in the previous office action, in view of Pearson (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0028610 A1).

As to claim 2, Nam at al. does not teach wherein the data files comprise works subject to copyright and workings not subject to copyright.

Pearson teaches wherein the data files comprise works subject to copyright and workings not subject to copyright (See Pearson page 6, paragraph 0045).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Nam at al. with the teachings of Pearson to include wherein the data files comprise works subject to copyright and workings not subject to copyright because it enforce copyrights and access restrictions (See Pearson page 1, paragraph 0005).

As to claim 8, Nam at al. does not teach comprising an authorization device, comprising at least one of an electronic smart card, a mechanical smart card, and an optical key smart card.

Pearson teaches comprising an authorization device, comprising at least one of an electronic smart card, a mechanical smart card, and an optical key smart card (See Pearson page 6, paragraph 0042).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Nam at al. with the teachings of Pearson to include comprising an authorization device, comprising at least one of an electronic smart card, a mechanical smart card, and an optical key smart card because it enforce copyrights and access restrictions (See Pearson page 1, paragraph 0005).

**Alternatively, the claims are rejected under:**

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

11. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

12. Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 21, 23, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Traversat et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,065,579 B2).

As to claim 1, Traversat et al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

a musicbox implemented via at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device, specialized musicbox devices (See column 15, lines 16-30), a computer and computers, said musicbox comprising:

a persistent data store, the persistent data store containing a plurality of individually selectable data files of a predetermined data format, some of the data files being pre-loaded onto the persistent data store (See column 16, lines 1-3);

a data communications interface coupled to a data communications network to a communication network to provide a peer-to-peer network, the data communications network comprising a plurality of musicboxes authorized to participate in the peer-to-peer network (See column 15, lines 16-30, and see column 16, lines 3-16); and

a controller coupled to the persistent data store and the data communications interface  
(See column 16, lines 17-34); and

software stored in the musicbox and executable via the controller in the musicbox (See column 25, lines 1-14), wherein the software is configured to:

identify, without utilizing a central server; the plurality of authorized musicboxes  
executing instances of the software (See column 25, lines 15-28);

peer-to-peer share the data files with the identified authorized musicboxes, the sharing  
being restricted to the identified plurality of authorized musicboxes having authorization to  
participate in the peer-to-peer sharing of data files (See column 26, lines 10-15);

secure the data files from unauthorized access to prevent the data files from being  
retrieved in a perceptible format thereof by unauthorized musicboxes (See column 16, lines 55-  
62);

reproduce the data files into a predetermined perceptible format (See column 66, lines 4-  
9); and

provide authorized musicboxes access to use the data files (See column 15, lines 16-30),  
wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether another system is executing an instance of software that allows and  
restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the data files (See column 16, lines 34-51, and see column 25,  
lines 24-28); and

identifying said another system as an unauthorized musicbox not being a peer in response  
to a detection that said another system is not executing said instance (See column 66, lines 17-30,  
if software is not installed, the musicbox is not a peer).

As to claim 2, Traversat et al. discloses wherein the data files comprise works subject to copyright and works not subject to copyright (See column 17, lines 40-65).

As to claim 3, Traversat et al. discloses wherein the data files comprise at least one of audiovisual works, music recordings, performance recordings, digitized film recordings, digitized video recordings, graphic work images, text, and software (See column 12, lines 36-46).

As to claim 4, Traversat et al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

a musicbox implemented via at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device, specialized musicbox devices (See column 15, lines 16-30), a computer and computers, said musicbox comprising:

a persistent data store, the persistent data store containing a plurality of individually selectable data files of a predetermined data format, some of the data files being pre-loaded onto the persistent data store (See column 16, lines 1-3);

a data communications interface coupled to a data communications network to provide a peer-to-peer network (See column 15, lines 16-30, and see column 16, lines 3-16); and

a controller coupled to the persistent data store and the data communications interface (See column 16, lines 17-34); and

software stored in the musicbox and executing via the controller in the musicbox (See column 25, lines 1-14), wherein the software is configured to:

identify other musicboxes executing instances of the software (See column 25, lines 15-28);

peer-to-peer share the data files with the identified other musicboxes, the sharing being restricted to the identified other musicboxes having authorization to participate in the peer-to-peer sharing of data files (See column 26, lines 10-15);

secure the data files from unauthorized access (See column 13, lines 43-54, also see column 16, lines 55-62);

reproduce the data files into a predetermined perceptible format (See column 66, lines 4-9); and

provide authorized musicboxes access to use the data files (See column 15, lines 16-30), wherein said software is configured to secure data files from unauthorized access by selecting **from among at least:**

securing the data files to prevent the data files from being retrieved in the predetermined perceptible format by unauthorized musicboxes (See column 17, lines 60-63, also see column 18, lines 31-40, also see column 22, lines 24-30); and

securing the data files to be retrievable in the predetermined perceptible format by authorized musicboxes (See column 13, lines 43-54), wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether another system is executing an instance of software that allows and restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the data files (See column 16, lines 34-51, and see column 25, lines 24-28); and



identifying said another system as an unauthorized musicbox not being a peer in response to a detection that said another system is not executing said instance (See column 66, lines 17-30, if software is not installed, the musicbox is not a peer).

As to claim 5, Traversat et al. discloses comprising an audio-visual interface, the audio-visual interface configured to export at least one selected from the group consisting of audio data and visual data usable in further reproduction of content within the data files (See column 13, lines 36-57, wherein “audio” files are taught).

As to claim 7, Traversat et al. discloses comprising a central server to provide registration services, the central server being a peer participant in the peer-to-peer network (See Figure 24, firewall, and see column 16, lines 45-53).

As to claim 8, Traversat et al. discloses comprising an authorization device, wherein the authorization device comprises at least one of an electronic smart card, a mechanical smart card, and an optical key smart card (See column 61, lines 25-35).

As to claim 21, Traversat et al. discloses a system for peer-to-peer access to a collection of data, comprising:

means for storing persistent data, the persistent data comprising a plurality of data files of a predetermined data format, the data files further being secured from unauthorized access (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1);

means for data communications, coupled to the means for storing persistent data (See column 15, lines 16-30, and see column 16, lines 3-16); and

means for accessing the persistent data in communication with the means for storing persistent data and the means for data communications, wherein the means for storing persistent data, the means for data communications and the means for accessing the persistent data are together implemented via a musicbox, wherein the musicbox comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of a specialized musicbox device, specialized musicbox devices, a computer and computers (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1), wherein the means for accessing the persistent data is executable via a controller in the musicbox and configured to:

identify, without utilizing a central server, other systems executing the means for accessing the persistent data (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1);

peer-to-peer share the persistent data with the identified other systems, the sharing being restricted to the identified other systems to prevent the persistent data from being retrieved in the predetermined data format by an unidentified system (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1); and

provide identified systems access to use the persistent data (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1), wherein to identify comprises:

detecting whether the other system is executing an instance of software that allows and restricts peer-to-peer sharing of the plurality of data files (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1); and

identifying the other system as the unidentified system not being a peer in response to a detection that said other unidentified system is not executing said instance (See corresponding rejection above for claim 1).

As to claims 23, and 25, Traversat et al. discloses wherein said system does not include a central server (See column 13, lines 43-49).

As to claim 26, Traversat et al. discloses wherein said software is further configured to:  
secure a predetermined collection of data files to prevent unauthorized copying by unauthorized musicboxes (See column 17, lines 60-63, also see column 18, lines 31-40, also see column 22, lines 24-30), and  
secure a predetermined collection of data files to be retrievable by authorized musicboxes (See column 13, lines 43-54).

### ***Response to Arguments***

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 7, 8, 21, 23, 25 and 26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Pouyoul et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0156893 A1) teaches dynamic transparent peer-to-peer service.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neveen Abel-Jalil whose telephone number is 571-272-4074.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Neveen Abel-Jalil  
January 31, 2007